What is Claimed is:

[c1]   A method for facilitating credit card transactions, comprising the steps of:

receiving from a merchant, desiring to receive authorization for a transaction with a user having an account with a credit card issuer, a transaction authorization number and information regarding the transaction;

retrieving secret information shared with a transaction authorization number generator utilized by the user; and

verifying the temporary authorization number by using the shared secret information and information regarding the transaction.

[c2]   The invention of claim 1 wherein the secret information further comprises a credit card number associated with the user.

[c2]   The invention of claim 1 wherein the secret information is utilized as a cryptographic key to decrypt information regarding the transaction encoded in the temporary authorization number.

[c3]   The invention of claim 1 wherein the temporary authorization number is a message authentication code generated from the information regarding the transaction using the secret information as a cryptographic key.

[c4]   The invention of claim 1 wherein the temporary authorization number is a one-time password generated from the shared secret information.

[c5]   A method for facilitating credit card transactions, comprising the steps of:

receiving authentication information from a user having an account with a credit card issuer; and

generating a temporary authorization number for the user using secret information shared with a credit card issuer whereby the temporary authorization number may be utilized in a transaction and verified by the credit card issuer using the shared secret information and information regarding the transaction.

[c6]   The invention of claim 5 wherein the secret information further comprises a credit card number associated with the user which is also used as the authentication information.

[c7]   The invention of claim 5 wherein the secret information is utilized as a cryptographic key to decrypt information regarding the transaction encoded in the temporary authorization number.

[c8]   The invention of claim 5 wherein the temporary authorization number is a message authentication code generated from the information regarding the transaction using the secret information as a cryptographic key.

[c9]   The invention of claim 5 wherein the temporary authorization number is a one-time password generated from the shared secret information.

[c10]   The invention of claim 5 wherein the temporary authorization number has a format similar to a credit card number.

[c11]   A processor readable medium containing executable program instructions for performing a method on a device comprising the steps of:

        receiving authentication information from a user having an account with a credit card issuer; and

        generating a temporary authorization number for the user using secret information stored on the device and shared with a credit card issuer whereby the temporary authorization number may be utilized in a transaction and verified by the credit card issuer using the shared secret information and information regarding the transaction.

[c12]   The invention of claim 5 wherein the secret information further comprises a credit card number associated with the user which is also used as the authentication information.

[c13]   The invention of claim 5 wherein the secret information is utilized as a cryptographic key to decrypt information regarding the transaction encoded in the temporary authorization number.

[c14]   The invention of claim 5 wherein the temporary authorization number is a message authentication code generated from the information regarding the transaction using the secret information as a cryptographic key.

[c15]   The invention of claim 5 wherein the temporary authorization number is a one-time password generated from the shared secret information.

[c16]   The invention of claim 5 wherein the temporary authorization number has a format similar to a credit card number.